

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

the Patent Application of

Bruck et al.

Attorney Docket No. 1stAg-493

Serial No. 09/865,188 -- Filing Date 05/24/2001

For INFORMATION TRANSFER BETWEEN OR AMONG COMMODITY BUSINESSES

Information Disclosure Statement

To the Attention of

Group Art Unit 2161

Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this November 19th, 2001 A.D.

Christopher John Rudy: *Christopher John Rudy* Date: 11/19/2001.

Please consider the present information in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

Submitted herewith are Formal Drawings.

Submitted herewith is a copy of the special license for foreign filing as granted on May 25, 2001. A foreign application corresponding to the present application was subsequently filed.

Missing parts, to include the required fees, were submitted (timely filed) under 37 CFR 1.8 on October 23, 2001.

The present application claims the benefit of and incorporates by reference U.S. provisional application No. 60/207,769. A copy whereof is submitted herewith, and it is cited on a Form PTO-1449.

The invention of this application has been assigned to 1stAg, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia. The assignment was timely filed with the required form and fee under 37 CFR 1.8 on October 23, 2001 (along with the missing parts) for recording by the assignment branch.

Submitted herewith in addition are the form PTO-1449 mentioned above and copies of the following references (also cited thereon):

Lindsey et al., U.S. patent No. 5,063,507. This discloses a goods database employing electronic title or documentary-type title which, in nature and gist, is a commodity trading system having a centralized computer and a data base. Each commodity, such as a bale of cotton, or a block of bales, is represented in the data base as a file having all the information unique to such bale, including a title flag. The title flag field of the file

indicates whether the title to the cotton bale is carried by way of a card-type warehouse receipt, or electronically. The electronic representation of title eliminates the transferral of documentary type title which is traditionally mailed to various locations to follow the trading transactions.

Lindsey et al., U.S. patent No. 5,285,383. This discloses a method for carrying out transactions of goods using electronic title, and is a continuation-in-part of the '507 patent. In nature and gist this is a commodity trading system having a centralized computer and data base. Each commodity, such as a bale of cotton, or a block of bales, is represented in the data base as a file having all the information unique to such bale, including a title flag. The title flag field of bale record and block record indicates whether the title to the cotton bale, or block of bales, is carried by way of a card-type warehouse receipt, or electronically. The electronic representation of title eliminates the transferral of documentary type title which is traditionally mailed to various locations to follow the trading transactions.

Hartman et al., U.S. patent No. 5,960,411. This discloses a method and system for placing a purchase order via a communications network. In nature and gist this is a method and system for placing an order to purchase an item via the Internet. The order is placed by a purchaser at a client system and received by a server system. The server system receives purchaser information including identification of the purchaser, payment information, and shipment information from the client system. The server system then assigns a client identifier to the client system and associates the assigned client identifier with the received purchaser information. The server system sends to the client system the assigned client identifier and an HTML document identifying the item and including an order button. The client system receives and stores the assigned client identifier and receives and displays the HTML document. In response to the selection of the order button, the client system sends to the server system a request to purchase the identified item. The server system receives the request and combines the purchaser information associated with the client identifier of the client system to generate an order to purchase the item in accordance with the billing and shipment information whereby the purchaser effects the ordering of the product by selection of the order button.

Smith et al., U.S. patent No. 6,067,582. This discloses a system for installing information related to a software application to a remote computer over a network. In nature and gist a system and method is disclosed for distributing, registering and purchasing software application and other digital information over a network. Each software application is embedded with an agent module which communicates with a remote server module in a server attached to the network. The server module

interacts with the user who is requesting installation of the software application, and, upon verification of billing or other constraints, the server module enables the agent module to proceed with installation. Subsequent to installation, the agent module monitors the server module and informs the user if an update to the software application is available.

Intellectual Property Today (TM), June, 2000, excerpt, page 17. This purports that TradingProduce.com has filed for a patent for a system that enables product code translation between buyers and sellers. It is purported that the company web site can match buyers and sellers through an algorithmic matching system. The web site is purportedly a business-to-business e-commerce site for produce, meat, seafood, floral and food and beverage transactions.

Of the foregoing, it is believed that the Lindsey et al. '383 patent may be the most potentially relevant. However, this is not to say that that patent is in fact relevant nor a guarantee that other disclosures from the foregoing art are not relevant.

This information is provided in accord with the Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, and for the convenience of the Examiner. The full range of equivalents is asserted hereby. Furthermore, the Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to contest enablement, as may be appropriate, and/or any nominal publication date of any cited art. All other rights are reserved.

Clearly, such information alone does not anticipate, nor does any of it alone or in combination with any other reference cited by the present paper render obvious, the present claims of the instant invention.

Please indicate consideration of the cited art on the Form PTO-1449, and return a copy of the inscribed form with the next Office action.

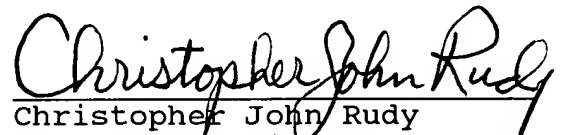
A Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Respectfully,

JEREMY ALAN BRUCK ET AL.

Dated: November 19, 2001 A.D.

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